**What is Energy Action Month?**

* National Energy Action Month is a federal program promoted during the month of October that encourages energy and water saving in federal facilities.
* During Energy Action Month, organizations are encouraged to post information encouraging employees to save energy and water, teach employees about how energy affects their work, engage in competitions or events, and more.
* Energy Action Month is designed to bring attention to energy use, but efficiency isn’t only for October. This month is a perfect time to develop new energy habits that can be carried on the other 11 months of the year.

**Why is the Marine Corps participating in Energy Action Month?**

* The Corps is known for leading the way in new efforts, for being a lean, lethal, and efficient force, and for having unwavering discipline. This applies to training, combat, and logistics, on base and in the battlefield. These principles should apply to all resources used, including electricity, fuel, and water.
* Energy is vital to the Marine Corps – it powers all of our efforts, from crucial training and logistics on our installations, to the warfighter and operating bases in the field.
* Efficient energy use habits learned during Energy Action Month can be sustained throughout the year, enabling Marines to reduce costs, improve resiliency, and better support mission effectiveness.
* Energy expenditures on base account for almost 20 percent of the Base Operating Support (BOS) budget – money that could be spent on other essential operations. The reality of future fiscal constraints and volatile energy costs requires further energy reductions to minimize the impact the purchase of utilities on will have on constrained BOS budgets.
* Addressing these concerns requires the assistance of everyone who works and lives onboard our installations.
* Marines are known for using only what they need, and energy is no exception. Small things that individual Marines do across installations to save energy or spread awareness will have a large impact over time.
* The goals of Energy Action Month – to raise awareness about energy use and to encourage energy-saving actions – are in line with the Marine Corps Energy Ethos.

**What is the Energy Ethos?**

* The Energy Ethos is the shared vision that the efficient use of energy resources is a critical component of mission readiness. It asks every Marine to take steps in their daily work to reduce energy and water use.
* The Marine Corps has instituted a "Bases to Battlefield" approach which promotes the establishment of an Energy Ethos that equates efficient use of vital resources to enhance mission readiness on installations and operational effectiveness in combat.
* The Marine Corps’ on-going Energy Ethos Campaign is directed at the energy end-user to establish new energy-saving methods and habits (behavior), leading to sustained commitment (culture) to the efficient use of energy.
* Every Marine, civilian, and visitor bears responsibility for being a good steward of our energy and water resources. Energy and water conservation can only be successful if every individual considers it his or her own responsibility and priority.

**What actions is the Marine Corps encouraging Marines to take?**

* Develop energy and water saving habits (turn off lights, use less heat and/or AC, unplug unused appliances and chargers, use window blinds for light and temperature management, run less water, shorten showers, turn off computer monitors, etc.).
* Talk to leadership, fellow Marines, and Unit Energy Managers (UEM) about energy use.
* Read materials that are disseminated throughout the month of October to learn how to save energy and water, and understand how these resources impact the Marine Corps.
* Considering how energy is used in day-to-day work and life – at offices, in warehouses, in vehicles, in barracks, and in homes.
* Change is not always easy, but each Marine has the power to alter how they use energy by adopting simple, energy-saving habits in daily life.

**What are Unit Energy Managers, and what do they do during Energy Action Month?**

* UEMs are Marines – one within each battalion or squadron – acting in a collateral duty as their unit’s point of contact on energy matters. UEMs distribute educational materials about energy consumption, provide feedback to Marines and commanders on energy efforts, conduct facility walkthroughs to identify incidents of energy waste, and answer questions or field reports on energy issues within unit facilities.
* UEMs will be leading each unit’s Energy Action Month efforts.
* Anyone with questions about Energy Action Month, how to reduce energy and water use, how to contribute ideas, or materials posted around facilities, should reach out to their UEM for more information and clarification.
* Expect UEMs to periodically send out Energy Action Month information and tips, and potentially coordinate events or competitions within the unit.
* UEMs will be working closely with installation and unit leadership during Energy Action Month.